

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LOME 02291 141819Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 SSO-00 SS-15 /025 W

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O 141700Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9799

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: KHELGHATI CONTRACT

REF: A. STATE 242534

B. STATE 207630

C. LOME 1910

1. PC WASHINGTON ACTION (REF A) IN ABRUPT AND UNILATERAL CANCELLATION OF RECENTLY SIGNED CONTRACT WITH PC DOCTOR KHELGHATI POSES PROBLEMS WHICH GO BEYOND PC MEDICAL NEEDS AND REFLECT ON USG POSITION IN TOGO.

A) ACTION WILL BRAND US GOVERNMENT AS ONE WHOSE SIGNED WORD CANNOT BE TRUSTED. USG WILL ALSO BEAR ONUS FOR PERSONAL HARDSHIP TO RESPECTED PROFESSIONAL WHO TURNED DOWN CONTRACT RENEWAL OFFER FROM TOGOLESE GOVERNMENT TO ACCEPT PC APPOINTMENT. IN TIGHTKNIT TOGOLESE SOCIETY, THIS ABROGATION OF CONTRACT WILL BECOME MAJOR TOPIC OF DISCUSSION IN OPINION-MAKING CIRCLES.

B) CONTRACT CANCELLATION WILL BE A SERIOUS SET-BACK TO POST MORALE WHICH HAS SEEN IN KHELGHATI APPOINTMENT A MAJOR UPGRADING OF AVAILABLE MEDICAL SERVICES.

C) EVEN IF CONTRACT PROVISIONS FOR CANCELLATION STRICTLY FOLLOWED (CONTRARY TO ACTION PROPOSED REFTTEL), KEHLGHATI MAY HAVE SERIOUS GROUNDS FOR SUBSTANTIAL DAMAGES UNDER TOGOLESE LAW, AND CIVIL
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SUIT COULD KEEP MATTER ALIVE FOR MANY MONTHS.

2. EMBASSY HAS REVIEWED TRAFFIC ON THIS CASE AND HAS NO DOUBT THAT PC DIRECTOR TOGO SIGNED CONTRACT IN GOOD FAITH PURSUANT TO UNABMIGUOUS INSTRUCTIONS FROM PC WASHINGTON. MOREOVER, STATED REASON FOR CANCELLATION AMOUNTS TO ABROGATION OF SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN PROVIDED FOR IN PC REGULATIONS WHICH PC DIRECTOR SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED AND RECEIVED (REFS B AND C). DEPARTMENT IS ASKED TO BRING TO PC WASHINGTON'S ATTENTION THE BROADER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS ARBITRARY ACT AND SEEK RECONSIDERATION OF DECISION. IF PC UNABLE TO REVERSE DECISION, WOULD APPRECIATE SERIOUS CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN BY PC WASHINGTON O WAYS TO MITIGATE EFFECTS OF KEHLGHATTI'S REMOTE CONTROLLED FIRING.
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Message Attributes

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